

# Work Session

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	9
<b>Meeting Date</b>	November 28, 2005
<b>Prepared By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews
<b>Approved By</b>	

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Naming of the Community Center Complex
<b>Background</b>	<p>On July 5, 2005, Howard Kohn, Chair of the Community Center Liaison Committee, addressed the City Council regarding the name of the Community Center complex. Mr. Kohn advised the City Council that the Committee recommended that the complex be renamed “Takoma Center”, with the phrase “Sam Abbott Community Center” over the front door of the Municipal Building.</p> <p>Following Mr. Kohn’s comments, Rino Aldrighetti addressed the City Council about this matter. Mr. Aldrighetti stated that he would like for Sam Abbott’s name to continue to be associated with the Municipal Building, as well as the use of the word “citizen.”</p> <p>Lynn Bradley also addressed the City Council about the name of the Community Center complex. Ms. Bradley endorsed use of the phrase “citizens center” in the name. She also commented that “Takoma Center” suggests that the facility is located in Takoma, DC.</p> <p>To date, the City Council has taken no official position on the name of the Community Center complex. The name of the complex must be resolved for both insurance and signage purposes.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	The City Council previously adopted Resolution No. 1991-27 concerning the name of the Municipal Building. This resolution authorized use of the phrase “Sam Abbott Citizens’ Center, which was to be placed beneath the words City of Takoma Park Municipal Building.
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	None
<b>Attachments</b>	Copy of Resolution No. 1991-27
<b>Recommendation</b>	The District of Columbia operates a recreational facility known as the Takoma Recreation Center, which is located at 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Van Buren Streets, NW. Staff recommends that Takoma Park be incorporated into the name of the Community Center complex to avoid confusion with this facility, as well as to better clarify the facility’s association with the City of Takoma Park.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	Chapter 2.04 of the Code of the City of Takoma Park makes reference to the City of Takoma Park Municipal Building and the Sam Abbott Citizens’ Center. Depending on the name selected by the City Council, an amendment to the Code may be required.

Introduced By: Councilmember Elrich

RESOLUTION NO. 1991-27

WHEREAS, Sam Abbott's contributions to the life of Takoma Park over the course of over a half century helped forge the spirit of participatory democracy by which we, today, proudly define our city; AND

WHEREAS, whether as political outsider or insider, as Takoma Park citizen or mayor, McCarthy era blacklistee or respected member of the Washington Area Council of Governments, Sam Abbott never strayed from the struggle for human and civil rights for all people and the rights of citizens to take a vocal and active role in the decisions that affect their lives; AND

WHEREAS, Takoma Park would today be a 10 lane freeway rather than our home town, if Sam Abbott had not organized the 15 year fight to stop the North Central Freeway.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Takoma Park desire to honor the values that Sam Abbott so consistently represented; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council authorize that the words:

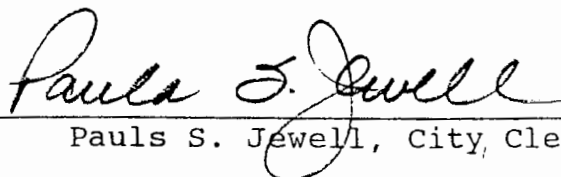
Sam Abbott Citizens' Center  
(be placed beneath the words)  
City of Takoma Park  
Municipal Building

on the exterior of our City's Municipal Building. The additional words shall be sized as the words "Municipal Building"; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at citizens' request, this honor shall be paid for by public contribution.

Dated this 25th day of March, 1991.

ATTEST:

  
Pauls S. Jewell, City Clerk